



[SEC File No. 270-017, OMB Control No. 3235-0018]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 15b6-1 and Form BDW

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From:
Securities and Exchange Commission
Office of FOIA Services
100 F Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20549-2736

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 ("PRA") (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 15b6-1 (17 CFR 240.15b6-1), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Registered broker-dealers use Form BDW (17 CFR 249.501a) to withdraw from registration with the Commission, the self-regulatory organizations, and the states. On average, the Commission estimates that it would take a broker-dealer approximately one hour to complete and file a Form BDW to withdraw from Commission registration as required by Rule 15b6-1. The Commission estimates that approximately 411 broker-dealers withdraw from Commission registration annually¹ and, therefore, file a Form BDW via the internet with the Central Registration Depository, a computer system operated by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. that maintains information regarding registered broker-dealers and their registered personnel. The 411 broker-dealers that withdraw from registration by filing Form BDW would incur an aggregate annual reporting burden of approximately 411 hours.²

¹ This estimate is based on Form BDW data collected over the past three years for fully registered broker-dealers. This estimate is based on the numbers of forms filed; therefore, the number may include multiple forms per broker-dealer if the broker-dealer's initial filing was incomplete. In fiscal year (from 10/1 through 9/30) 2020, 499 broker-dealers withdrew from registration. In fiscal year 2021, 417 broker-dealers withdrew from registration. In fiscal year 2022, 318 broker-dealers withdrew from registration. $(499 + 417 + 318) / 3 = 411$ (rounded down from 411.33).

² $(411 \times 1 \text{ hour}) = 411 \text{ hours}$.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: April 4, 2023.

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-07390 Filed: 4/6/2023 8:45 am; Publication Date: 4/7/2023]